CONSTITUTION OF ALPHA IOTA CHAPTER OF ALPHA PHI OMEGA
FRATERNITY, A NATIONAL SERVICE FRATERNITY

PREAMBLE: We, the brothers of Alpha Iota Chapter of the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity, in order to secure for ourselves, for the student body of the Ohio State University, for the youth of the nation and of the world, the blessings that come from the Scout Oath and Law, and to deliver a program of service to our fellow men, do hereby adopt and establish the following constitution and subsequent by-laws.

CONSTITUTION:

ARTICLE I: THE FRATERNITY

1.01 **NAME.** The name of this student organization shall be the Alpha Iota Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity.

1.02 **PURPOSE.** This chapter shall be a service fraternity under the provisions set forth in the national constitution and by-laws of the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity. The purpose of this chapter is to assemble the men of The Ohio State University in fellowship of the Scout Oath and Law, and to develop friendships, leadership, and association among scout-trained men, and to promote service to the student and faculty, to youth and community, to members of the fraternity, and to the nation as participating citizens.

1.03 **PRINCIPLES AND POLICIES.** This chapter shall at all times maintain the principles and policies of Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity, as set forth in the National Constitution and By-laws.

1.04 **CLASSIFICATION.** This chapter, as chartered by the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity, shall be known as a Service Fraternity.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERSHIP

2.01 **ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP.** Active membership in this chapter may be granted to men duly enrolled and in good standing in The Ohio State University, who are or have been previously affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America, or any Boy Scout movement recognized by the International Association of the Boy Scouts. No restrictions as to Scout rank or length of service shall be imposed as a membership qualification.

The privileges of active membership shall be granted to faculty and scouting advisors. Alumni members (sec. 2.04) residing on or near campus may be granted the privileges of active membership, at the discretion of the chapter.

2.02 **ADVISORY MEMBERSHIP.** Advisory membership shall be granted to all faculty and scouting advisors.

2.03 **HONORARY MEMBERSHIP.** Honorary membership may be granted at the discretion of the chapter.

2.04 **ALUMNUS MEMBERSHIP.** Alumni membership of this chapter shall be composed of all former members, who have been graduated or honorable separated from The Ohio State University. They shall not have voting privileges, except as specified in section 2.01.

2.05 **INITIATION.** All new active, advisory, and honorary members shall be initiated according to the official ritual, and in accordance to the national constitution and by-laws, and the chapter constitution and by-laws.

2.06 **SUSPENSION.** This chapter shall have the power to suspend any of its members for just cause.

2.07 **PLEDGESHIP.** In order to be initiated into active membership, the pledge shall have completed a period of pledgeship under the control of the pledge trainer; during which time he shall be trained in the fraternity's history, traditions, membership, government, and activities. Further each pledge shall be approved by the chapter in accordance with the chapter by-laws.
ARTICLE 2: MEETINGS AND PROCEEDINGS

3.02 SEMI-ANNUAL MEETINGS. This chapter shall hold semi-annual elections and report meetings on or near November 15th and May 1st for the purpose of receiving semi-annual reports, conducting elections, and transacting such other special business as may properly come before such meeting.

3.03 REGULAR MEETINGS. This chapter shall hold a minimum of two meetings a month throughout the curricular year, the type to be determined by the chapter.

3.04 SPECIAL MEETINGS. This chapter may hold other meetings as may be provided for in the by-laws. On written request of one-third of the active membership of the chapter, special meetings shall be called as provided for in the by-laws.

ARTICLE IV: CHAPTER ORGANIZATION

4.02 ELECTED OFFICERS. The chapter shall elect the following officers:
   a. President
   b. 1st Vice President (Service)
   c. 2nd Vice President (Fellowship)
   d. 3rd Vice President (Membership)
   e. Treasurer
   f. Recording Secretary
   g. Corresponding Secretary
   h. Alumni Secretary

4.03 APPOINTED OFFICERS. The chapter president, with the approval of the chapter executive committee, may appoint the following officers:
   a. Historian
   b. Sergeant at Arms
   c. Quartermaster
   d. others as required

4.05 HONORARY OFFICERS. Honorary officers may be elected at the discretion of the chapter to serve without voting privileges.

4.06 DELEGATES. This chapter shall elect such delegates to the National Convention as it is entitled to under the provisions of the National Constitution and By-laws.

4.07 CHAPTER COMMITTEES. The chapter shall have the following committees:
   a. An Executive Committee composed of a majority of the elected officers (Sec. 4.02). The chairman shall be the chapter president. This committee shall act for the chapter between meetings and carry out the duties outlined in the chapter by-laws.
   b. An Advisory Committee composed of a majority of the elected advisors. The chairman shall be elected by the chapter (Sec. 4.06).
   c. Regular Chapter Committees:
      1. Service projects and scouting liaison.
      2. Fellowship and Program.
      3. Membership and Public Relations (Publicity).
4.08 

VACANCIES. Any vacancy in the chapter offices or committees shall be filled in the same manner as specified in each respective section. Temporary appointments may be made by the chapter president, with the approval of the executive committee, pending elections.

4.09 

INSTALLATION. All chapter officers and advisors shall be installed according to the installation ceremony provided by the Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity.

4.10 

BOARD OF EXTENSION. The Board of Extension shall be composed of all prior presidents of Alpha Iota Chapter of Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity. Its student members may form a student advisory board. The Board of Extension shall perform the following duties:

a. serve in advisory capacity only to the chapter.
b. promote extension of Alpha Phi Omega Fraternity to other college campuses.
c. promote extension of Alpha Iota Chapter, at the discretion of the chapter, through assisting current chapter officers, and program, and
d. promote chapter membership.

ARTICLE V: FINANCES AND PROPERTY

5.01 INCOME. The necessary expenses of this chapter shall be met from funds secured through chapter dues; and from funds secured through chapter activities conducted in keeping with the activity and financial policies of The Ohio State University and the Central Ohio Council of The Boy Scouts of America.

5.02 DEPOSIT. All funds of the chapter, or handled in behalf of the chapter and the fraternity, from whatever source and for whatever purpose received, shall be deposited to the credit of the chapter in the chapter's checking account in the University office of the Ohio National Bank.

5.03 ANNUAL STATEMENT. An annual statement of receipts and expenditures, assets and liabilities of the chapter, duly audited by the authorities of the Ohio State University shall be made to the chapter, and a copy submitted to the National Office.

5.04 SPECIAL HANDLING. All receipts handled for the fraternity, such as pledge and active initiation fees, life membership fees, and orders for supplies, shall be carefully aggregated through adequate bookkeeping and accounting procedures so that these revolving funds will not be used by the chapter.

5.05 CHAPTER BUDGET. The chapter executive committee shall be responsible for the formation of or enforcement of the chapter budget. This budget shall be prepared prior to and approved at the semi-annual meeting.

5.06 CHAPTER PROPERTY. The president of the chapter, with the approval of the executive committee, shall appoint a quartermaster, or other responsible officer, to purchase, store, maintain, and replace all chapter property.

ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENT

6.01 AMENDMENTS. This constitution may be amended at any regularly called meeting of the chapter with a quorum present upon an affirmative vote of three-fourths of the active members in attendance, provided that the proposed amendment of amendments shall at least thirty days prior thereto have had the consideration of the Executive Committee and the Advisory Committee, and provided further that at least fourteen days prior thereto the proposed amendment of amendments shall have been read at a regular meeting of the chapter, with a quorum present, and provided still further that a copy of the proposed amendment of amendments accompanies the call fo
ARTICLE VI: AMENDMENT.

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February 29, 1960

Mylin H. Ross
The Ohio State University
The Office of the Dean of Men
309 Pomerene Hall
Columbus 10, Ohio

Dear Mr. Ross:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Constitution of Alpha Iota Chapter, Alpha Phi Omega, as you requested in your letter of February 19, 1960. At the present time our by-laws are not functional and for that reason they are not being used. During the spring quarter they will be revised. When a revision is available a copy will then be sent for your files.

Sincerely yours,

James D. Pritchard
James D. Pritchard, President
Alpha Iota Chapter,
Alpha Phi Omega
Above: Brian Gath of Marietta, Ohio, rings the Ohio Stadium victory bell after OSU's win. Gath's fraternity, Alpha Phi Omega, has been in charge of ringing the bell since 1954.
Art program serves special children

By Amy Ankeles
Lantern staff writer

Nearly 1,000 children visited a very special art festival Thursday and Friday in the Ohio Union Ballrooms.

The Very Special Arts program of Central Ohio held its annual Arts Festival, allowing children with disabilities to view artwork, watch performances by guest artists and participate hands-on in creating some of their own artwork in the festival's workshops.

Children worked with clay, had their faces painted, made badges and pipe people, worked with geometric shapes and mirrors and played "ice hockey" on a large canvas with pucks made of frozen paint.

They also watched Ralph Bell's inspiring headpointer painting. Bell, 77, is a well-known disabled artist who paints by using a brush that he moves with the motion of his head.

The festival was staffed completely by volunteers, many of whom were high school students from South-Western City Schools, said Ruth Hobart, coordinator of the Central Ohio Very Special Arts Program.

"Things are hectic and finances may be tight, but when you see the look on the face of a child with a disability creating something, it makes it all worthwhile," Hobart said.

The festival is a place where the children can lose their disability and focus on the abilities they have, she added.

Hobart has been coordinating the festival, which is the central event of the organization, since 1985.

Hobart said there are four purposes for the annual event: to provide opportunities for people with disabilities to display their accomplishments in the arts; to allow those with disabilities to participate in arts experiences; to provide training centers for teachers, parents and others conducted by special arts educators; and finally, to increase public awareness of the accomplishments and needs of persons with disabilities.

A ceremony emceed by Jimmy Crum, sports anchor for WCMH Channel 4, was held as part of the festival Thursday night to recognize students and teachers for their excellence. Awards were given in the areas of academics, arts, athletics, community service, employment, extracurricular activities and independent living skills.

The Central Ohio program is sponsored by the Central Ohio Special Education Regional Resource Center, South-Western City Schools and Ohio State. Funding for events such as the festival comes from corporations, foundations and private donors, including the OSU chapter of Alpha Phi Omega.

The international organization was founded in 1974 by Jean Kennedy Smith to enrich the lives of children and adults with disabilities through drama, dance, music, literature and visual arts.

There are 14 Very Special Arts festivals held each year in Ohio.

Fraternity wheels across Oval for arts program

By Amy Ankeles
Lantern staff writer

The Alpha Phi Omega fraternity set its wheels in motion for a worthy cause Thursday and Friday.

Members of the fraternity spent 24 straight hours in four wheelchairs on the Oval raising money for the Central Ohio Very Special Arts Program. They took shifts soliciting money from passers-by.

Alpha Phi Omega, a service fraternity established at Ohio State in 1934, raises about $500 annually to benefit the organization.

"This money really makes a difference in their budget, as opposed to a larger charity to whom a $500 contribution may not matter as much," said Brian Gath, president-elect of the fraternity.

Gath, who kicked off the fundraiser in the first wheelchair Thursday at noon, said it is both satisfying and fun to be part of such a group.

The fraternity holds three major projects per year, one each quarter, he said. Autumn Quarter they promoted the OSU-Michigan blood battle, Winter Quarter they raised over $1000 for soup kitchens benefiting the homeless, and Spring Quarter they are raising money for the Very Special Arts Program.

They usually also try to do something each week to help out organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, Swim for Diabetes and the Columbus Zoo, Gath added.
100-foot sundae to aid Arthritis Foundation

Students who want to beat the heat by being ice cream gluttons can come to the Ohio Union West Ballroom tonight at 7.

Ninety-nine tubs of Velvet ice cream will be molded into a 100-foot sundae, said Dave Ward, spokesman for the civil service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega. For $1.50 people can eat as much ice cream as they want, he said. Proceeds will go to the Arthritis Foundation.

This is the fifth year the fraternity has built a mega-sundae to raise money for the foundation. Ward said usually $200 to $400 is raised.

"Last year we raised $389. My goal (this year) is $450," Ward said.

He said the fraternity has had the event announced on radio and television and has printed T-shirts to promote the fund-raiser.

People will be given plates and spoons and will eat directly from the sundae. Fresh ice cream will be brought out as soon as there is room for it in the sundae, which will be covered with a plastic sheet. This will prevent any melting problem.
ALPHA PHI OMEGA Presents

April 19-23

Proceeds to American Cancer Society
Franklin County Society for Crippled Children
OPIAG
Student Leadership Endowment Fund

1. General Grumble--Mosker House
2. Itchy Brother--Lamba Chi Alpha
3. Spiral--Young Republicans
4. Purple Pothead Pucker--Alpha Tau Omega
5. Deanimated Duck--Stadium Dorm
6. Nauseous Troll--Lincoln Tower
7. Son of a Loch--Delta Chi
8. Hairy Question--Kappa Delta
9. Klurbus Briar Beest--Town Students
10. Gutter Snipe--Sigma Alpha Epsilon & Kappa Alpha Theta
11. Mona Lisa--Freshman Senate
12. Greasy Rider--Delta Ursilon
13. Captain America--Delta Delta Delta
14. Tom y Trustee--Haverfield, Blackburn, Taylor

EVENTS

Monday April 19

...Parade around the oval area. 11:48 a.m.

Wednesday April 21

...UMOC Night at the Castle. Come and meet the candidates 8:00 p.m.

Thursday April 22

..."A Happening in the Hollow" Live entertainment by "Sweetreat" Dancing 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
Bell rings with tradition

By NANCY SUTTON
Lantern staff writer

It was silent for nearly a month of the season, but with the 23-20 victory over Michigan Saturday the Victory Bell rang out, continuing a 30-year tradition.

Alpha Phi Omega, a service fraternity, has been ringing in the victories at Ohio Stadium and games won on the road as long as the bell has been there.

The victory bell at Ohio Stadium was installed October 1, 1954. A gift from the classes of 1943, 1944 and 1954, the 2,420 pound bell cost $2,535.

After John Holt, 1954 president of Alpha Phi Omega, expressed interest in having the fraternity ring the bell, Richard C. Larkins, athletic director in 1954, appointed it to do so. The bell first rang October 2, 1954, after a victory over California. The bell was also rung following Woody Hayes’ memorial service in March 1987.

“We are a service fraternity and ringing the victory bell is just one way we serve the university,” said Randy Zimmer, public relations chairman of Alpha Phi Omega.

“Sometimes we auction off a chance to ring the bell and the proceeds go to charities, such as United Way and others,” said Curtis Drummond, treasurer of Alpha Phi Omega.

“It’s kind of scary up there, the whole tower shakes hard and it is very loud,” said Mark Beluscak, rush chairman. “The rope has a tendency to pull you up over the edge, so you really have to hang on tight and don’t let go. We usually ring the bell for about 15 minutes or until we get tired.

“It is an honor to ring the bell, we are proud to be a part of the tradition,” he said.

Before the Michigan game, the bell hadn’t been rung since the Oct. 23 victory against Minnesota. The Buckeyes lost their last two home games this year.
Fraternity’s ringing of victory bell a tradition

By Stacie De Gennaro
Lantern staff writer

As thousands of cheering Buckeye fans celebrate each OSU football victory, the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity rings Ohio Stadium’s bell.

For 15 minutes after every Buckeye victory since 1943, members of the fraternity have continued what is now an OSU tradition.

Michael Spradling, president of the co-ed service fraternity, said no member is solely responsible for the duty. All members are welcome to lend a hand.

One member starts the bell swinging about 30 seconds before the end of every game, whether it is home or away, Spradling said.

Then, if the clock expires and the Buckeyes have won, other members join in to keep the bell ringing.

“After about three or four rings it starts to slow down, and someone will jump in and get it going again,” Spradling said.

Spradling said he is not sure how the tradition began, but it probably evolved as a service project.

In the past, the fraternity members have raffled off the opportunity to ring the bell, which is in the southeast corner of the stadium above the athletic office, he said.

The fraternity has donated the proceeds from these raffles to organizations such as the Center of Science and Industry, he said.

Alpha Phi Omega was founded in 1926, and has about 25 active members. It is a co-ed fraternity with a membership that has a tendency to fluctuate from mostly male to mostly female.

“It swings back and forth, like the victory bell,” Spradling said.
Freezing philanthropy

Many people would think that standing outside all night on a Friday in near zero-degree weather would not be much fun. But defining fun is a matter of opinion.

More than eight Alpha Phi Omega members braved the cold weather Friday night to raise money for the Columbus-area homeless.

Craig Olwert, vice president of service for the fraternity, said the idea of the Help Out The Homeless campaign was to simulate being homeless and panhandling money to benefit the less fortunate.

The fraternity members stood in front of the Ohio Union facing High Street from 9 p.m. Friday to 8 a.m. Saturday trying to solicit money from passersby.

"It's a taste of what it's like to be homeless, but we get to wear layers of clothing and can go inside for hot chocolate or coffee. I can't imagine what it's like to really be homeless," Olwert said.

This year they raised $75, significantly less than last year's $500. Most of the money they received came from bar patrons who were on their way home, Olwert said.

The proceeds will go to benefit The Homeless Family Fund in Columbus.

—Cristina Gilbert
Fraternity keeps Ohio State victory bell ringing after football games

By Carrie Wise
The Columbus Dispatch • Tuesday September 29, 2015 11:41 AM

As the crowd empties Ohio Stadium following a Buckeye football win, members of the Alpha Phi Omega fraternity begin ringing the victory bell.

They take turns pulling the cord of the 2,000-pound bell for 15 minutes. If Ohio State beats the team up north, they ring the bell for 30 minutes.

"It was really loud," said senior Eric Salomon after his first trip to the top of the southeast corner of the stadium to ring the bell.

He and seven other members of the co-ed fraternity took turns ringing the bell, waved to fans from above, and captured photos of the ritual.

>> Dispatch sports writer Rob Oller answers your questions about Buckeyes football during our weekly chat, 1 p.m. Thursday, dispatch.com/osuchat

"I wasn’t sure what to expect," sophomore Laura Hagy said. "The bell was a lot heavier than I thought it was going to be."

The co-ed fraternity has been ringing the bell since 1954. The bell was a gift to the university from the classes of 1943, 1944 and 1945, according to the university archives.

"It’s really amazing [Ohio State] let us keep this tradition for so many years," said senior Alyssa Franklin.

>> Click for details on how to win tickets and trips to OSU games from Dispatch Reader Rewards

As part of the tradition, Franklin signed her name on the wall of the tower next to the names of those who had rung the bell before her.

"We’re all Ohio State students struggling to get through college, and this time just lets us get together and be happy for this joyous moment of victory," Franklin said.

>> Video: Ohio State victory bell

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